

Message Text

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21

ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-11 RSC-01 IO-14

ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 OMB-01

NSCE-00 MMS-03 INT-08 FEA-02 SCI-06 DRC-01 /187 W

----- 113066

R 090400Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 769

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMCONSUL MEDAN

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

USINT CAIRO

USLO PEKING

USUN NEW YORK 697

CINCPAC

CINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

CINCLANT

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, UK, IO, ID

SUBJECT: INDONESIAN COMMENT ON DIEGO GARCIA

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REFERENCES: A. JAKARTA 1671; B. JAKARTA 1533

1. INDONESIANS BROKE SILENCE ON DIEGO GARCIA EXPANSION WITH MODERATELY CRITICAL STATEMENT FROM FOREIGN MINISTER MALIK ON FEB. 8. ACCORDING VERSION CARRIED BY OFFICIAL NEWS AGENCY "ANTARA", MALIK "DEPLORED" FAILURE OF SUPER-POWERS TO UNDERSTAND WISHES OF COUNTRIES WHO WANT TO MAKE INDIAN OCEAN A ZONE OF PEACE. MALIK SAID THAT IF U.S. MOTIVE IN EXPANDING DIEGO GARCIA FACILITY WERE TO COUNTER PRESENCE OF SOVIET BASES, THEN THIS WOULD ONLY LEAD TO CREATION OF "ZONE OF RIVALRY." ACCORDING VERSION IN REALIABLE DAILY "KOMPAS," MALIK NOTED THAT IT WAS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE THE CHINESE ALSO ENTERED THE RACE, AS INDICATED BY CHINESE SIEZURE OF THE PARACELS. WHEN REPORTERS ASKED WHY AMERICANS AND SOVIETS SEEMED TO BE REACHING DETENTE IN EUROPE BUT NOT THE INDIAN OCEAN, MALIK REPLIED THAT IN THE FORMER CASE, SUPERPOWERS HAVE ACHIEVED BALANCED STRENGTH, WHEREAS IN LATTER THEY ARE STILL JOCKEYING. MALIK SAID THAT INDONESIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES WOULD AGAIN PROPOSE ZONE OF PEACE CONCEPT IN THE UN, " BUT FOR THE MONENT, IT IS DIFFICULT FOR US TO PROTEST, BECAUSE THE ISLAND (DIEGO GARCIA) BELONGS TO SOMEONW ELSE."

2. IN SOLE EDITORIAL REACTION THUS FAR, NEO-SUKARNOIST DAILY "MERDEKA" SUGGESTED IN FEB 9 EDITORIAL THAT INDO- NESIA SHOULD TAKE MORE ACTIVE INTEREST IN PREVENTING GREAT POWER RIVALRY IN THE INDIAN OCEAN WHICH WOULD PROBABLY HEIGHTEN AFTER REOPENING OF SUEZ CANAL. "MERDEKA" SUGGESTED THAT INDONESIA SHOULD TAKE A PAGE FROM THE ARABS' BOOK AND USE HER OIL AS A POLITICAL WEAPON IN THIS CONNECTION.

3. COMMENT: MODERATE MALIK STATEMENT IS IN LINE WITH WHAT FOREIGN DEPARTMENT TOLD US TO EXPECT SEVERAL DAYS AGO. (REF B).
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Event:
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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